**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the Specification by deleting the current text, and replacing it with the following text, as noted below:

Page 6, Lines 11-16 as follows:

To provide communication between terminal 10 and a central computer 90 or computers, generally one or more peripheral devices or peripherals, such as a headset 16, are coupled to terminal 10. Headset 16 <u>has an earpiece 17 and microphone 70, and i</u>s coupled to the terminal by a cord 18 <u>and plug 12 wireless link 19</u>. The headset 16 is worn on the head of the worker ~~or a wireless link~~ and allows hands-free operation and movement through a warehouse or other facility.

Page 17, Line 17 – Page 18, Line 9 as follows:

Other peripherals may be utilized, and the present invention is not limited to the exemplary embodiments disclosed herein. For example, a scanner 68 includes a chip or component 78 that defines its characterizing parameter. Upon coupling the scanner to processor 40 through a serial interface 73, the characterizing parameter is determined and associated with one or more operational parameters for the scanner 68. Likewise, a training device 70 with a chip or component <u>85</u> ~~80~~ is coupled to the processor 40 which reads the chip <u>85</u> ~~80~~ for the training device 70 and adjusts the configuration of the terminal and its operation accordingly. Still further, a printer 71 with chip or component 81 might also be coupled to processor 40.

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In that way, the present invention may handle multiple peripherals at one time and can provide the desired operational parameters and operational configuration for each of those peripherals without requiring the worker to slowly go through each available menu for a peripheral. This results in significant time savings and eliminates errors associated with such programming. A worker will not usually require that all available peripherals be associated with the terminal at once.

Page 19, Line 5 – Page 20, Line 9

In another aspect of the present invention, the various peripherals and their location may be tracked based upon the characterizing parameter associated with each of the peripherals. Referring to Figure 3, each of the various terminals 80, 82 and 84 interface with one or more central computers 90, such as through wireless communication signals 88. Associated with the terminals might be various peripherals $P_1$, $P_2$, $P_3$. Upon coupling one or more of the peripherals to a terminal 80-84, the specific characterizing parameter associated with the peripheral may be forwarded to central computer <u>90</u> 86. The central computer <u>90</u> 86 is then operable for tracking the existence and use of the peripheral within the system, and its specific location as associated with a terminal 80-84. The central computer 86 may then provide inventory control for the peripherals, such as for maintenance purposes, to reduce theft, and for efficient use of the peripheral resources. For example, one worker may have a bar code reader, but may be located in a particular area of the warehouse that may be filling an order which does not require a bar code reader. In that way, the central computer might be utilized to direct another

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worker to the location of the bar code reader if they need it. Alternatively, the central computer might be utilized to communicate to the worker who has the bar code reader that someone else needs it. As discussed herein, the term characterizing parameter is utilized to generally designate the identification information provided to a terminal or computer by a chip or other component or device, and associated with a specific peripheral. In the present invention, the name of a worker might be associated with a terminal they are using. Therefore the worker is associated with the various peripherals coupled to the terminal based on the characterizing parameters read by the terminal and transferred to the central computer. In that way, the characterizing parameters of the various peripherals might be utilized to instruct the workers, by name, to pass peripherals back and forth to each other, as they are needed.

Page 20, Lines 11-22, as follows:

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, power sources such as batteries 72 also have specific characterizing parameters 87 which are read by the terminal, specifically a terminal processor circuits 40, 42. The operational parameters of the terminal associated with power may then be configured as desired for the specific battery plugged into the terminal and associated with the characterizing parameter that is read. That is, whenever a specific battery is attached to the terminal, the operational software of the terminal may automatically adjust. In one embodiment, it is anticipated that the association of operational parameters with a characterizing parameter will occur automatically upon coupling a peripheral

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with a terminal.  However, as a further step, it might be required that the worker actually requests such reconfiguration based upon one or more simple inputs.  That is, the new configuration would not occur automatically.

Page 20, Line 23 – Page 21, Line 17, as follows:

With respect to battery performance and battery management, the operational software of the terminal or the central computer could track a history of battery performance for each battery which is used with the terminal.  The terminal software could adapt its voltage/time characteristic curve for detecting a low battery situation in order to notify the worker that a new battery will be required.  Furthermore, utilizing the characterizing parameter associated with a battery, further operational characteristics, rather than just low battery voltage monitoring, may be achieved.  For example, in one embodiment, the software will monitor the life of a battery between its fully charged state and the low battery state using voltage monitor 83 (Fig. 2). As batteries deteriorate, one symptom is that they do not hold a sufficient charge as long and thus are depleted more rapidly (shorter life).  With the present invention, such an occurrence may be detected so that a battery (defined by its characterizing parameter) may be taken completely out of circulation and disposed of, rather than having it go through additional wasteful re-charge cycles.  Again, as noted above with respect to Figure 3, not only might the terminal notify a worker wearing the specific terminal, but also central computer 90 might receive such information as well so that all the batteries used within the system might be monitored for replacement and re-charging.

Page 25, Line 22 – Page 26, Line 7, as follows:

In another aspect of the present invention, it may be desirable to configure the operational parameters and the software terminal based upon a system selected preference, rather than that desired by a particular worker. That is, it may be desirable for consistency within the system to insure that, for certain peripherals, each of the terminals will operate the same. The present invention, utilizing an characterizing parameter associated with each peripheral, such as through a chip or other component, will allow the central computer 90 86 to control the various terminals 80, 82 and 84 as they are configured based upon the system user preference or criteria, rather than a specific user preference or criteria.